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General Assembly
Fiftieth session

Official Records

104th plenary meeting
Thursday, 11 April 1996, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Diogo Freitas do Amaral . . . . . (Portugal)

In the absence of the President, Mr. Moubarak (Lebanon), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.35 a.m.

Agenda item 120 *(continued)*

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (Article 19 of the Charter)

The Acting President: I should like to inform members that Guatemala has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount in Article 19 of the Charter.

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of this information?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: This information will be reflected in an addendum to document A/50/888.

Reports of the Fifth Committee

The Acting President: This morning the General Assembly will consider the reports of the Fifth Committee on agenda items 114, 116, 120, 128 and 167 and 168 and 169, 136, 138 (a) and (b) and 160.

I request the Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, Mr. Peter Maddens of Belgium, to introduce the reports of the Fifth Committee in one intervention.

Mr. Maddens (Belgium), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee *(interpretation from French):* I have the honour to introduce to the General Assembly the reports of the Fifth Committee on the agenda items for today's meeting.

All the negotiations on the various issues on the Committee's agenda took place in informal meetings chaired by members of the Bureau and other representatives to the Fifth Committee, in keeping with the Committee's usual practice.

Action on all the draft resolutions adopted and decisions taken during the first part of the resumed fiftieth session of the General Assembly was by consensus. The following is a brief report on the work of the Fifth Committee.

The report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 114, entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations", is contained in document A/50/840/Add.1. In paragraph 6 of that report, the Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft decision A/C.5/50/L.39, concerning the report of the Secretary-General on the progress achieved in the implementation of procurement reform in the Secretariat. The draft decision was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

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The report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 116, entitled "Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997", is contained in document A/50/842/Add.2. In paragraph 13 of that report, the Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft decision, proposed orally by the Chairman of the Committee, concerning unforeseen and extraordinary expenses, in which it is recommended that the General Assembly defer consideration of the question to the second part of its resumed fiftieth session, in May 1996.

The report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 120, entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations", is contained in document A/50/843/Add.1. In paragraph 6 of that report, the Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft resolution A/C.5/50/L.38. The draft resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

The report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 136, entitled "Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991", is contained in document A/50/849/Add.1. In paragraph 6 of that report, the Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft resolution A/C.5/50/L.35. The draft resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

The report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 160, entitled "Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994", is contained in document A/50/852/Add.1. In paragraph 6 of that report, the Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft resolution A/C.5/50/L.36. The draft resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Under agenda item 138 (a), entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations: financing of United Nations peace-keeping operations", the report of the Fifth Committee concerning the support account is contained in document A/50/850/Add.2. In paragraph 6 of that report, the Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft resolution A/C.5/50/L.42. The draft resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote. Under the same agenda item, the report of the Fifth Committee concerning the matter of death and disability benefits and the question of reform of the procedure for determining reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment is contained in document A/50/850/Add.3. In paragraph 8 of that report, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of two draft resolutions, A/C.5/50/L.40 and A/C.5/50/L.44. Those two draft resolutions were adopted by the Committee without a vote.

The report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 138 (b), entitled "Relocation of Ukraine to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (c) of General Assembly resolution 43/232", is contained in document A/50/851/Add.1. In paragraph 6 of that report, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft resolution A/C.5/50/L.41. The draft resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Finally, the Fifth Committee, for time-saving and procedural reasons, considered jointly agenda item 128, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters"; agenda item 167, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina"; agenda item 168, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium"; and agenda item 169, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force". The report of the Fifth Committee on those four items is contained in document A/50/796/Add.2. In paragraph 7 of that report, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft decision A/C.5/50/L.37, which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

The Acting President: If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee that are before it today.

It was so decided.

The Acting President: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote.

The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Fifth Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records. May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401 the General Assembly agreed that

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee".

May I also remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Fifth Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Fifth Committee.

Agenda item 114 *(continued)*

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/50/840/Add.1)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of Part II of its report.

The draft decision, entitled "Implementation of procurement reform in the United Nations Secretariat", was adopted in the Fifth Committee without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 114.

Agenda item 116 *(continued)*

Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997: report of the Fifth Committee (Part III) (A/50/842/Add.2)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 13 of Part III of its report.

The draft decision, entitled "Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses", was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 116.

Agenda item 120 *(continued)*

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/50/843/Add.1)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of Part II of its report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/207 B).

The Acting President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 120.

Agenda items 128 *(continued)*, **167, 168 and 169**

Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters; Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium; Financing of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force: report of the Fifth Committee (Part III) (A/50/796/Add.2)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of Part III of its report.

The draft decision was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda items 128, 167, 168 and 169.

Agenda item 136 (*continued*)

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/50/849/Add.1)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of Part II of its report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/212 B).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 136.

Agenda item 138 (*continued*)

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations:

(a) Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations: reports of the Fifth Committee (Parts III and IV) (A/50/850/Add.2 and Add.3)

(b) Relocation of Ukraine to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (c) of General Assembly resolution 43/232: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/50/851/Add.1)

The Acting President: We turn first to Parts III and IV of the report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 138 (a), entitled "Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations" (A/50/850/Add.2 and Add.3).

The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of Part III of its report (A/50/850/Add.2). The draft resolution, entitled "Support account for peace-keeping operations", was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/221).

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 8 of Part IV of its report (A/50/850/Add.3).

Draft resolution I, entitled "Reform of the procedures for determining reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment", was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/222).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II, entitled "Death and disability benefits", was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/223).

The Acting President: Next, the Assembly will consider Part II of the report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 138 (b), entitled "Relocation of Ukraine to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (c) of General Assembly resolution 43/232" (A/50/851/Add.1).

The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of Part II of its report. The draft resolution was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/224).

The Acting President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda items 138 (a) and 138 (b).

Agenda item 160 *(continued)*

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/50/852/Add.1)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of Part II of its report. The draft resolution was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote. May I consider that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/213 B).

The Acting President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 160.

The meeting rose at 11 a.m.